

NORTHWEST WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENT (Northwest Compact)

Cooperative Operating Plan 2009



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I. Purpose

This cooperative operating plan is to facilitate assistance in prevention, preparedness (presuppression) and control of wildland fires between the member agencies of the Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement (known as the NW Compact) . This plan does not override or supersede any existing cooperative wildland fire fighting arrangements such as federal/state agreements, Mutual Aid Resource Sharing (MARS), or the Canada/US Reciprocal Forest Fire Fighting Agreement.

Agencies part of the NW Compact will be further referred to as member agencies. NW Compact resources exchange will not be part of the Canadian and US national mobilization process, but needs to be coordinated as soon as possible for strategic purposes. All NW Compact resources will be considered agents of the receiving Agency.

Local, cross jurisdictional (International, Territorial, Provincial, and State) operating plans may also be developed for local geographic areas that incorporate closest forces concept to facilitate initial attack. The local operating plans will be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the NW Compact Cooperative Operating Plan.

II. Authority

The Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement ratified by US Public Law 105-377, 1998, and signed by the member agencies provides for this cooperative operating plan under Article 3.2.

III. Terminology and Command Systems

To establish a "common" understanding, words and phrases as used herein are defined in a Glossary attached as Appendix A.

The member agencies recognize and accept different on site language and command structures of each agency. Resources may be defined and/or configured differently by each member agency.

IV. General Procedures

A. Requests

1. Requests for assistance will be channeled by the most expeditious means to the appropriate authorized official as listed in Appendix B.
2. Each member agency will be responsible for providing the U.S. and Canadian agencies with the names and phone numbers of the authorized Canadian and U.S. member agency officials and/or duty officers by April 30th of each year.

3. Each member agency's resource order forms are acceptable for resource order requests. The ordering agency assigns the billing number.

B. Personnel

1. Reimbursement for personnel will be on the following basis:
All costs submitted for payment by the sending agency will be reimbursed by the ordering agency, in accordance with the salary schedules and/or union contracts in existence with the sending agency unless resource rates are established prior to resource mobilization.

A sending agency may prefer to set a flat fee for service.

2. When appropriate, the sending agency or the ordering agency may provide and/or request adequate liaison. The costs of the agency representative will be reimbursed by the ordering agency.
3. When mutually agreed by the ordering and sending agencies, the sending agency may provide a single resource.
4. The ordering agency agrees to accept the sending agency's standards for training, fitness, personal protective equipment and workers compensation. If the ordering agency must meet additional safety equipment/supplies standards than the sending agency standards, it is the responsibility of the ordering agency to supply the required equipment, supplies and associated training.
5. Each agency assigning personnel to a resource order certifies that the personnel assigned meet the requirements of the position ordered. Prior to any position reassignment or change in resource status, including trainees, will be negotiated with the Sending Agency.
6. Personnel assigned as part of a resource order will receive an incident briefing by the ordering agency prior to fireline deployment and should be debriefed prior to demobilization. Debriefings and evaluations will be provided to the sending agency.
7. Agencies will comply with customs clearing procedures as applicable. (See Appendix D. Procedures for Crossing International Borders)
8. The sending agency will ensure that their personnel are adequately covered for any hospital and/or medical costs incurred while on assignment.
9. Notwithstanding item number 8, the ordering agency will ensure that immediate medical services be afforded any member of the personnel on assignment regardless of the nature of the requirement or the type of medical aid required.
10. Any accident or serious incident involving personnel on assignment must be immediately reported to the sending agency's authorized official. The sending agency may request to participate in the investigation, or may, at their own expense, and with the assistance of the ordering agency, undertake their own investigation.

11. Commissary expenses for personnel on assignment is the responsibility of the sending agency.
12. Length of assignment and rest and rotation for personnel shall be identified by the Sending Agency at the time of request. Any extension of assignment will be by mutual agreement.

C. Equipment and Supplies

1. Expendable supplies and materials shall be considered purchased on delivery, and full replacement costs will be reimbursed by the ordering agency. Items should be considered expendable if they are not reusable.
2. Non-expendable and accountable equipment and supplies will be credited to the ordering agency upon return to the sending agency. The cost of refurbishing is reimbursable to the sending agency unless the sending agency agrees that the ordering agency will perform the work.
3. In the event that any equipment or supplies are damaged beyond repair or not returned, they will be either replaced by the ordering agency with new equipment or supplies of the same quality and quantity and to the sending agency's standard, or full replacement costs will be reimbursed by the ordering agency. Fiscal reimbursement is the preferred method for replacing lost or damaged equipment when crossing international borders.
4. Providing communications equipment is the responsibility of the ordering agency, unless mutually agreed.

D. Aircraft

1. Costs for aircraft being obtained through this cooperative operating plan are defined by the sending agency. These normally include:
 - a. Hourly flight time
 - b. Hourly/daily availability
 - c. Fuel and oil (if purchased by the sending agency)
 - d. Landing Fees
2. Air crew wages are included in the hourly flight time and /or hourly/daily availability, unless otherwise specified by the sending agency. Crew meals, accommodations, and ground transportation are reimbursable if not supplied by the ordering agency.
3. Normal, routine maintenance is the responsibility of the aircraft contractor or owner and is not reimbursable.
4. Costs incurred for extra labor or parts transported to facilitate repairs not considered routine are reimbursable. Sending agency contract stipulations will be followed by the ordering agency.

5. Damage to an aircraft caused as a direct result of the ordering agency personnel actions are the ordering agencies responsibility and are reimbursible.
6. Length of assignment and recall conditions will be defined at the time of deployment. Any extension of assignment will be by mutual agreement
7. Special considerations should be mutually agreed to.

E. Recall

1. Forty-eight hours recall notice for personnel will be given from the sending agency wherever possible, and the ordering agency will make every effort to meet the 48 hour notice.
2. Equipment, aircraft and supplies will be returned to the sending agency as expeditiously as possible or as negotiated.

F. Billing and Payment

1. Estimates shall be submitted annually by December 1, invoiced no later than January 31, and final payment shall occur within 60 days after receipt of billing, unless a different arrangement is negotiated.
2. All billings will include the ordering agency's resource order number and request number if applicable, and shall be itemized by incident and by sectional provisions of this guideline.
3. Invoices for goods and services provided by Canada to the US will be paid for in the equivalent Canadian dollars. Invoices for goods and services provided by the US to Canada will be paid for in the equivalent US dollars. It is the intent that the sending agency receive full payment of their bill, regardless of the current exchange rate. The rate shall be the exchange rate **at the date that the invoice is issued, and identified on the invoice**. If an invoice is revised, the exchange rate will be at the date that the original invoice was issued, unless mutually agreed to.
4. Member agencies will not normally bill each other for administrative costs (indirect costs), or as agreed to at time of order.
5. Bills shall be submitted to the billing addresses listed in Appendix C.

G. Review

1. The Cooperative Operating Plan shall be reviewed annually, and updated as appropriate.
2. *Reviewed and updated April 22, 2009, by the member agencies.*

V. Appendices

A. Glossary

Authorized Official--Immediate authority to approve dispatch of resources. Specific individuals are identified in Appendix B.

Billing Number--Individual agency's charge code that tracks costs for the incident.

Agency Representative--Official from the ordering/ sending agency responsible for the health, safety, welfare and commissary needs of sending agency personnel while on assignment.

Member Agencies-- Agencies signatory to the Northwest Wildland Fire Protection Agreement

Ordering Agency--Any agency requesting and receiving assistance from another agency.

Preparedness (Presuppression)-- Table top exercises, training, building teams, and exchange of technology in advance of fire season.

Sending Agency--Any agency providing resources at the request of another agency.

Appendix B.

2009

Authorized Member Agency Officials and/or Duty Officers

Alberta

John Brewer
Phone: 780-427-7925
Fax: 1-780-422-7230
Cell: 1-780-903-3020
Email: John.Brewer@gov.ab.ca

Morgan Kehr
Wildfire Operations
Phone: 1-780-422-4438
Cell: 1-780-499-6468
Fax: 1-780-422-7230
Email: Morgan.Kehr@gov.ab.ca

Bruce Mayer
Phone: 780-644-4656
Fax: 1-780-415-1509
Cell: 1-780-916-3604
Email: Bruce.Mayer@gov.ab.ca

Provincial Duty Officer (24 hours April 1-October 1)
Phone: 1-780-415-6460 (during hours)
Cell: 1-780-913-2344 (after hours)
Fax: 1-780-422-7230
Email: pffc.wfops@gov.ab.ca
24 hour desk 12 months/year 310-FIRE (toll free anywhere in Alberta)

British Columbia

Leo Gillich
Phone: 1-250-770-3703
Cell: 1-250-498-5390
Email: Leo.Gillich@gov.bc.ca

Brian Simpson
Office 1-250-387-6368 or 1-250-365-4012
Email: Brian.Simpson@gov.bc.ca

Provincial Duty Officer
Phone: 250- 387-1717 (24 hours)
Email: prov.fire@gov.bc.ca

For initial attack requests (less than 24 hours) contact Fire Center Fire Control Officers:

Coastal 1-250-951-4200

Kamloops 1-250-554-7701

Southeast 1-250-365-4001

Prince George 1-250-565-6126

Northwest 1-250-847-6633

Caribou: 1-250-989-2608

For initial attack air tanker assistance call the Provincial Airtanker Centre
Phone: 1-250-376-9018

All other requests contact Provincial Duty Officer

Northwest Territories

Susan Corey, Director, Forest Management

Office: 867-872-7700

FAX: 867-872-2077

Email: Susan_COREY@gov.nt.ca

Frank LePine, Manager, Fire Operations

Office: 867-872-7713

FAX: 867-872-2077

Email: frank_lepine@gov.nt.ca

Territorial Duty Officer

Phone: 867-872-7710

24 Hour: 867-872-4262

FAX: 867-872-2077

Email: DUTY_OFFICER@gov.nt.ca

Saskatchewan

Steve Roberts

Phone: 306-953-2206

Fax: 306-953-3575

Cell: 306-961-2964

Email: Steve.roberts@gov.sk.ca

Provincial Duty Officer

Phone: 306-953-3430 (May 1- September 15)

Fax: 306-953-2530

Yukon

Mike Sparks

Phone: 1-867-456-3964

Fax: 1-867-667-3148
Cell: 1-867-332-1894
Email: Mike.Sparks@gov.yk.ca

Yukon Duty Officer
Phone: 1-867-667-3128
Fax: 1-867- 667-3148
Cell: 867-332-1924
Email: ydo@gov.yk.ca

Alaska

Tom Kurth
Phone: 907-356-5850
Fax: 907-356-5855
Cell: 907-590-3184
Home: 907-479-2919
Email: Tom.Kurth@alaska.gov

Darla Thiesen
Phone: 907-356-5682
Cell: 907-590-3186
Home: 907-488-8949
Email: Darla.Thiesen@alaska.gov

Arlene Weber-Sword
Phone: 907-269-8471
Cell: 907-590-3689
Email: Arlene.Weber-Sword@Alaska.gov

Idaho

Brian Shiplett
Phone: 208-666-8650
Cell: 208-755-4939
Fax: 208-769-1524
Email: bshiplett@idl.idaho.gov

Jim Newton
Phone: 208-666-8651
Cell: 208-755-6762
Fax: 208-769-1524
Email: jnewton@idl.idaho.gov

Resource Orders
Coeur d'Alene Dispatch Center
Sally Estes
Phone 208-772-3283
Fax: 208-762-6909

Email: idcdc@dms.nwcg.gov

Duty Officer

Phone: 208-769-1530

Fax: 208-762-6909

Montana

The following is the call down order to request resources from the State of Montana DNRC office for Northwest Compact members.

Northern Rockies Coordination Center

Email: mtnrc@dms.nwcg.gov

Office Phone: (406) 329-4880

Night or 24-hour phone: (406) 329-4880

Cell Phone: (406) 544-2632

Note: Calling the night or 24-hour phone will provide instructions on calling the duty officer.

Ray Nelson, Direct Protection Coordinator

Email: rnelson@mt.gov

Office Phone: (406) 329-4996

Night or 24-hour phone: (406) 329-4880 (Ask for State Fire Coordinator)

Cell Phone: (406) 544-3473

Home Phone: (406) 728-0914

John Monzie, Deputy Chief, Fire Operations

Email: jmonzie@mt.gov

Office Phone: (406) 542-4220

Cell Phone: (406) 544-7383

Home Phone: (406) 721-6491

Bruce Suenram, Deputy Chief, Preparedness

Email: BSuenram@mt.gov

Office Phone: (406) 542-4223

Cell Phone:

Home Phone:

Ted Mead

Fire & Aviation Management Bureau Chief

Email: tmead@mt.gov

Office Phone: 406-542-4304

Cell Phone: 406-240-1004

Home Phone: 406-549-6577

Oregon

James Walker, Fire Operations Director
Office: 503-945-7437
Home: 503-585-0950
Cell: 503-551-5391
Email: JWalker@odf.state.or.us

Dispatch Coordinator during working hours
Belinda Boston, Salem Coordination Center Manager
Phone: 503-945-7439
Cell: 503-365-1223
Pager: 503-559-0587
Fax: 503-945-7430
Email: bboston@odf.state.or.us

Duty Officer after hours
Pager: 503-375-5901
Cell Phone: 503-931-5793

Washington

Albert Kassel, Emergency Operations Manager
Phone: 360-902-1316
Cell: 360-701-5042
Pager: 360-971-1340
Home: 360-807-8916
Email: albert.kassel@dnr.wa.gov

Mark Gray, Resources Protection Assistant Division Manager, Operations
Phone: 360-902-1754
Cell: 360-807-5182
Email: mark.gray@dnr.wa.gov

Judie Cline, Resource Protection Assistant Division Manager, Business
Phone: 360-902-1708
Cell: 360-790-3893
Fax: 360-902-1781
Email: judie.cline@dnr.wa.gov

24 Hour Fire Phone
1-800-562-6010

Day-to-Day Operations Contacts

Albert Kassel (see info above)

Jeannie Abbott
Phone: 360-902-1304
Cell: 360-480-4333
Pager: 360-971-1478

Jennifer Flemister
Phone: 360-902-1746
Cell: 360-480-1819
Pager: 360-402-3942

NORTHWEST COMPACT ORDERING GUIDELINES\NORTHERN ROCKIES GEOGRAPHIC AREA

The Northwest Compact was created to facilitate assistance in wildland fire presuppression and suppression between the member agencies. Member agencies include the States of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana as well as the Canadian Provinces of Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon and Northwest Territories. The federal wildland fire agencies in the Northern Rockies are not signatory agencies of the Compact, but are committed to assisting the Compact in accomplishing its goals.

The Compact and its Operating Plan do not override or supercede any existing cooperative wildland fire fighting arrangements such as federal/state agreements, or the Canada/US Reciprocal Forest Fire Fighting Agreement. Compact resource exchanges are not part of the national mobilization process but need to be coordinated as soon as possible for strategic planning purposes. All Compact resources used on joint US Federal/State fires will be considered agents of the state that originally ordered them.

State of Montana

All orders for Compact resources to be deployed in Montana will be placed through the Northern Rockies Coordination Center (NRCC). All orders from Compact agencies for State of Montana resources will also be placed through the NRCC. The NRCC will assign a "P" number so that federal agencies can bill the State for any expenses incurred during mobilization/demobilization of Compact resources. **Remember, only State resources may be mobilized through the Compact.** Some resources may be interagency, i.e. they are partially composed of federal personnel and/or equipment (crews, helicopter modules, engine crews, IMTs, etc). Compact orders requesting resources having a federal component must be placed through normal dispatch channels:

Dispatch Center→NRCC→NICC→CIFFC→NICC→NRCC→Dispatch Center

Dispatch of critical interagency resources should not be unnecessarily delayed while orders are being processed through the national mobilization system.

State of Idaho

The same procedures described for the State of Montana apply to Idaho except that all orders will be placed with the Coeur D'Alene Interagency Dispatch Center (CDC).

Appendix C.

BILLING ADDRESSES

Alberta

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
Provincial Forest Fire Centre
9th Floor, Great West Life Building
9920-108 Street
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5K 2M4
Attention: Judy Laviolette

British Columbia

Attention: Superintendent of Wildfire Preparedness and Operations
Ministry of Forests and Range, Wildfire Management Branch
PO Box 9502 Stn. Prov. Government
Victoria, British Columbia V8W 9C1

Northwest Territories

Forest Management Division
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Box 7
Fort Smith, NT
XOE OPO
Attention: Manager, Fire Operations

Saskatchewan

Fire Management and Forest Protection
Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment
Box 3003 Highway 2 North
Prince Albert, Saskatchewan
S6V 6G1

Yukon Territory

Director, Wildland Fire Management
Community Services (C19) Wildland Fire Management Branch
Box 2703
Whitehorse, Yukon
Canada
Y1A 2C6

Alaska

State of Alaska
Division of Forestry
550 West 7th Avenue, Ste 1450
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3566
Attention: Lex McKenzie
907-269-8477
907-269-8931
Lex_McKenzie@Alaska.gov

Idaho

Idaho Department of Lands
Bureau of Fire Management
3780 Industrial Avenue
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815
Attention: Jim Newton

Montana

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Division of Forestry
Fire and Aviation Management Bureau
2705 Spurgin Road
Missoula, Montana 59804
Attention: John Monzie

Oregon

Oregon Department of Forestry
Protection Program
2600 State Street
Salem, Oregon, 97310
Attention: Sue Nall, Office Manager

Washington

Department of Natural Resources
Attention: Albert Kassel
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 47037
Olympia, Washington 98504-7037

Appendix D.

PROCEDURES FOR CROSSING INTERNATIONAL BORDERS FOR WILDLAND FIRE SUPPRESSION UNDER THE NORTHWEST FIRE COMPACT & NORTHWEST BORDER ARRANGEMENT

1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

As of March 1st, 2003 the United States consolidated Customs, Immigration and some Agriculture functions under the **Department of Homeland Security** by creating a new agency called **Customs and Border Protection**. Also known as **CBP**, this agency now has primary responsibility for all border enforcement and facilitation activities. The Office of Field Operations is responsible for the Ports of Entry, the Office of Border Patrol is responsible for the areas between the Ports of Entry, and the Office of Air and Marine provides air and vessel support and operates the radar center in Riverside, California. *It is possible that responding resources might need to deal with one or more of these components depending on the situation.*

The Canadian government completed a similar reorganization of its border agencies and created the **Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA)**. These are the primary agencies you will be dealing with in all cross-border responses.

When deploying across the U.S./Canada border it is important to remember that you will be dealing with two different nations, each with different laws, rules and procedures. It is also important to remember that these agency officials have important jobs to do and although they will give due consideration to the emergency nature of your trip, you must comply with, and are subject to, all the relevant rules and regulations. Both CBP and CBSA officials have reassured us that they will make every effort to accommodate an expedient crossing provided that they have been provided (in advance if possible) with all the necessary documentation.

Think of your border crossing in three parts: authority, people and equipment. Each part must be fully documented to comply with the requirements of the country they are entering.

PRIORITIES:

- Personnel should carry adequate identification and proof of citizenship, ideally in the form of a valid passport. *Requirements are changing and will impact fire crews.* The United States is in the process of implementing the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative which will ultimately require all persons to possess a passport or other approved document in order to cross the border.
- **WARNING:** personnel with criminal records may be refused entry to both the United States and Canada. Please advise your crews that this is an important issue,

and if they have any doubts about their admissibility to the country where they are being deployed, they should resolve them *prior to deployment*.

- Contraband of any type is prohibited and can result in penalties or arrest. The importation of firearms is strictly regulated in both the United States and Canada and for the purposes of this agreement firearms are prohibited.
- Before leaving your home base, insure that your inventory of equipment and supplies is accurate and that your personnel manifest is fully complete.
- When *responding to an incident*, the dispatcher providing information to the border officials can request priority to the head of the line when crossing the border. Be specific about the crossing being used and the time of arrival, and nature of the incident.
- When returning, priority crossing will not be considered and all necessary documentation and manifests must be complete, unless the resource is *en route* to another incident. If crews are returning by air, please ensure that Customs and Border Protection officials are notified in advance and arrangements have been made to complete any outbound documentation or inspections.
- Where possible, all documentation should be on official CBP or CBSA forms and all accompanying letters and authorizations must be on official fire agency letterhead. Electronic manifests often provide a better copy than faxed/copied versions; contact the intended crossing point for the best email address to use.

2) **AUTHORITY**

The fact that the deployment is by a federal, state or provincial government at the official request of another federal, state or provincial government should be documented in some manner on official letterhead and supported by copies of the resource order. This assists border officials in verifying the official nature of the deployment. This also serves to differentiate between volunteer responders and/or commercial entities seeking to take advantage of the situation.

3) **PEOPLE**

Everyone crossing the border is subject to the laws of the country they are entering and personnel with criminal convictions may be refused entry, and those with outstanding warrants may be detained and arrested.

- Adequate identification and proof of citizenship must be carried at all times when crossing the border. Proper ID helps determine who you are; it must have a recent photograph, and be issued by a government authority (driver's license, photo identification or similar.) Proof of citizenship establishes your nationality; a passport is the best, but a birth certificate (including the wallet sized variety

issued in Canada), or a naturalization certificate, are currently acceptable in conjunction with the photo ID. *This is in the process of change:*

Effective January 2007, the United States began implementation of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI), which requires all persons to establish their citizenship with a valid passport or other approved document. The first phase of the program, which is currently in full effect, requires that all persons *arriving by air* present a valid passport. Under the second phase, which began in January 2008, all persons arriving by land and sea will also be required to present a valid passport or other approved documents as evidence of their identity/citizenship.

- The **Single Document** option includes presenting any of the following:
 - United States or Canadian Passport
 - United States Passport Card (Available Spring 2008)
 - United States Permanent Resident Card (I-551)
 - Trusted Traveller Cards (NEXUS, SENTRI or FAST programs)
 - State or Provincial Enhanced Driver's License (currently available from Washington and British Columbia)
 - Enhanced Tribal Cards (when available)
 - United States Military Identification (with Military Travel Orders)
 - United States Merchant Mariner Document
 - Native American Tribal Photo Identification Card (from recognized tribes)
 - Form I-872 American Indian Card
 - Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) Card
- The **Two Document** option includes presenting **BOTH** an *identification* document and a *citizenship* document:
 - *Identification* documents include;
 - A driver's license issued by a federal, state, provincial, county, territory or municipal authority which has a photograph.
 - A United States or Canada Military Identification card.
 - *Citizenship* documents include;
 - United States or Canadian birth certificates issued by a federal, state, provincial, county, territory or municipal authority.
 - United States Consular Report of Birth Abroad.
 - United States Certificate of Naturalization.
 - United States Certificate of Citizenship.
 - Canadian Citizenship card.
 - Canadian Certificate of Citizenship (without photo).

United States Customs and Border Protection will exercise every possible latitude when dealing with responding emergency resources, but reminds member agencies that exceptions to the above requirements will be made entirely on a case-by-case basis and may cause delay for the entire unit. Taking a moment to verify your crew's documents prior to departure may save significant time at the border.

U.S. BOUND - CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

U.S. immigration law requires that every person entering the United States must apply for admission in person; ID and citizenship documents will be verified. Canadian Fire agencies should ensure that crew manifests are on official agency letterhead. These should be faxed in advance to the Port of Entry to speed processing. Crewmembers with criminal convictions may not be admissible to the United States; if there is any question this should be clarified in advance by speaking with CBP Officers at the intended port of arrival.

- Normally fire crews will be paroled into the United States under section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and a form I-94 will be issued to each person to document their entry. *The I-94 document should be returned to CBP at the time of departure.* Whoever is keeping documents for the strike team should ask for and receive a validated copy of the crew manifest and keep that as a backup document.
- Pilots and crews arriving by air must also provide advance manifests. Manifests may be sent electronically or faxed (consult with the Port of Entry official).

Note: It is VERY important to make sure PRIOR TO BOARDING that all crewmembers arriving by air are properly documented for entry into the United States.

CANADA BOUND - CANADA BORDER SERVICES AGENCY

- Canadian Immigration Regulation 19(1)(j) allows for entry, without employment authorization, of personnel coming to Canada to assist in an emergency situation. CBSA is flexible with regard to inspection, especially for air transport. Crew manifests should be faxed or electronically provided in advance. Any medical/physical conditions should be identified on the manifest.
- Persons with criminal records (such as a driving while intoxicated or driving under the influence conviction) may be inadmissible to Canada. If the entry is essential to the success of the emergency response, then a discretionary entry or entry under a Ministers Permit may be considered. In either case, payment of a processing fee (C\$200) is required (Visa or Mastercard). Prior notification would help processing.
- Persons registered under the “Indian Act” may enter into Canada freely, even if not Canadian citizens. Canada, however, is not a signatory to the Jay Treaty and many U.S. tribes do not receive reciprocity.
- In case there is some confusion on emergency procedures quote Customs memo: “D Memorandum, 8-1-1 paragraph 44 and appendix G”.

4) **EQUIPMENT**

U.S. BOUND - CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

- The requesting U.S. Fire Agency should notify the designated border crossing CBP Port Director or Supervisory CBP Officer as soon as practical (by phone and fax on agency letterhead) that emergency equipment and material will be arriving from Canada (provide ETA and destination).
- The responding Canadian Fire Agency- should fax manifest of equipment (on US CBP Form 7533 if possible) to designated Port Director or Supervisory CBP Officer at the port of intended arrival. Crews or trucks arriving at border must also carry the manifest. Information on the equipment and materials manifest can be of a general nature (number of pumps on engine, amount of foam, numbers of shovels etc).
- Airlift of Equipment: CBP officials must be provided with a manifest of equipment and materials and these may need to be inspected at airport of arrival. Not all airports are designated for Customs clearance, and not all airports have full-time staff.
- Plan ahead and speak to a CBP Officer at the location where you intend to arrive.

U.S. BOUND - SPECIAL CONCERNS FOR AIRCRAFT ARRIVALS

- ✈ Arrivals by aircraft will be treated similar to those at the land border. However, every effort should be made to identify inadmissible crew-members, prior to departure for the United States.
- ✈ Aircraft that will actually land in the United States must arrive and clear at a designated CBP airport. Except in very rare circumstances, all aircraft must report for inspection at an Airport of Entry prior to proceeding to a fire scene; those exceptions MUST be coordinated in advance through the Service Port Director and the nearest Border Patrol Sector, and the Air Marine Operations Center (AMOC) in Riverside, California.
- ✈ Aircraft fire operations may include air observer flights or fire retardant drops where the aircraft does not actually land in the United States. It is important that these be properly coordinated with the Air Marine Operations Center (AMOC) and Border Patrol as noted below.
- ✈ AMOC is familiar with and recognizes distinct “squawk” codes to forestry and firefighting aircraft operating near the border. However, when any fire operations are taking place near the border and between ports of entry, AMOC (1-800-553-9072) and the nearest Border Patrol Sector must be contacted. 1255 is the squawk assigned to firefighting aircraft unless some other emergency code has been designated by the FAA for a specific mission.

CANADA BOUND - BORDER SERVICES AGENCY

- The requesting Canadian Fire Agency- should notify the designated CBSA Superintendent by fax and on agency letterhead, that emergency equipment and material will be arriving from the U.S. (provide ETA and destination).

- The responding U.S. Fire Agency should provide a manifest of equipment coming into Canada preferably by fax and prior to arrival at the border crossing. Manifest (Form E29B) can be of a general nature (number of pumps on the engine, amount of foam, shovels etc.). Form E29B must also be handed in when leaving Canada, indicating what is being left behind (what was consumed).

Note: Prior to entering Canada, also stop at the U.S. Port of Entry and complete a U.S. Customs Form 4455 and have it validated by a CBP Officer. This helps establish that your listed equipment is of U.S. origin when you return.

- Airlift of equipment: Custom officials must be faxed the necessary manifest. Equipment may be inspected at destination at the prerogative of the Customs Officer.

NOTE: In most cases, any lost, damaged or destroyed equipment should be paid for by the receiving agency. Replacing lost or destroyed equipment causes numerous problems with clearances, taxes and replacement quality.

5) CANADIAN CUSTOMS CONTACT NUMBERS (24 hours):

Program Services (Vancouver, B.C.)	(604) 666-0450
Pacific Highway/Douglas, B.C.	(604) 538-3635
Osoyoos, B.C.	(250) 495-7518
Kingsgate, BC	(250) 424-5391
Victoria, B.C.	(250) 363-3339
Rykerts, B.C.	(250) 428-2575
Chief Mountain, Alberta (seasonal)	(403) 653-3152
Coutts, Alberta	(403) 344-3772
Beaver Creek, Yukon	(867) 862-7230
Telephone Reporting Centre (CANPASS) (for small aircraft and boats)	1-888-226-7277

In case there is some confusion on emergency procedures quote Customs memo "D Memorandum, 8-1-1 paragraph 44 and appendix G"

6) UNITED STATES CONTACT NUMBERS (24 hours):

Contact the Port Director or Supervisory CBP Officer at the Port of Entry you plan to enter through. They can directly facilitate your movement and are the best points of contact. The list that follows covers port locations starting in the west and moving eastward.

Customs and Border Protection has also established a coordinator for Washington, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota and Minnesota to deal with any problems that arise and to assist you with overall policy issues and advance planning:

Bob Gadsby, Supervisory CBP Officer, Great Falls, Montana
406-453-0861 (airport office)
406-453-5688 (fax)
406-788-9810 (cellular)
gadsby@dhs.gov

NOTE: In an emergency, if unavailable at any of these numbers, call CBP's National Communications Center at 1-800-XSECTOR (800-973-2867) and request that the dispatcher contact SCBPO Gadsby or his designate.

UNITED STATES CUSTOMS & BORDER PROTECTION
Northwest Ports and Port Hours (Bold type = 24 hour Port)

PORT LOCATION	PHONE	FAX	HOURS/DAY OF WEEK	
ALCAN, AK	907-774-2252	907-774-2020		
PORT ANGELES, WA (Ferry)	360-457-4311	360-457-7514		
ANACORTES, WA (Ferry)	360-293-2331	360-293-4422		
BELLINGHAM, WA (Airport)	360-734-5463		8 AM – 5 PM	MON - SAT
BLAINE, WA	360-332-7611 360-332-8511 Peace Arch 360-332-5707 Truck Crossing 360-332-6091 Pacific Highway	360-332-4701	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
LYNDEN, WA	360-354-2183	360-354-2706	8 AM -- MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
SUMAS, WA	360-988-2971	360-988-6300	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
NIGHTHAWK, WA	509-476-2125	509-476-3799	9 AM – 5 PM	7 DAYS A WEEK
OROVILLE, WA	509-476-2955	509-476-2465	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
OROVILLE, WA (Airport)	509-476-2955		8 AM – 5 PM	MON - SAT
DANVILLE, WA	509-779-4862		8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
LAURIER, WA	509-684-2100		8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
FRONTIER, WA	509 732-6215		6 AM – MIDNIGHT 8 AM – MIDNIGHT	MON THRU FRI SAT AND SUN
FERRY, WA	509-779-4655	509-779-0505	9 AM – 5 PM	7 DAYS A WEEK
BOUNDARY, WA	509-732-6674		9 AM – 5 PM	7 DAYS A WEEK
METALINE FALLS, WA	509-446-4421		8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
MOSES LAKE, WA (Airport)	509-762-2667		8 AM – 5 PM ALL OTHER	MON THRU SAT APPOINTMENT ONLY
SPOKANE, WA (Airport)	509-353-2833		8 AM – 5 PM ALL OTHER	MON THRU SAT APPOINTMENT ONLY

PORT LOCATION	PHONE	FAX	HOURS/DAY OF WEEK	
PORTHILL, ID	208-267-5309 208-267-5645	208-267-1014 208-267-7166	7 AM – 11 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
EASTPORT, ID	208 267-3966 208-267-2183	208-267-4138 208-267-3011	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
ROOSVILLE, MT	406 889-3865 406-889-3737	406-889-5076	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
CHIEF MOUNTAIN, MT (Glacier National Park; Summer Station Only)	403 653-3317		9 AM – 6 PM 7 AM – 10 PM 9 AM – 6 PM	MAY 15 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – LABOR DAY DAY AFTER LABOR DAY TO SEP 30
PIEGAN, MT	406 732-5572	406-732-5574	7 AM – 11 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
DEL BONITA, MT	406 336-2130	406-336-2135	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
SWEETGRASS, MT	406 335-9630 406-335-9601	406-335-2611 406-335-9631	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
CUT BANK, MT (Airport; managed by SWEETGRASS POE)	406-335-9630 406-873-4352	406-335-2611	24 HOUR PORT BY APPOINTMENT ONLY	7 DAYS A WEEK BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
WHITLASH, MT	406-432-5522	406-432-5528	9 AM – 5 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
WILD HORSE, MT	406-394-2371	406-394-2398	8 AM – 5 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	OCT 1 – MAY 14 MAY 15 – SEP 30
WILLOW CREEK, MT	406-398-5512	406-398-5397	9 AM – 5 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
TURNER, MT	406-379-2651	406-379-2614	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
MORGAN, MT	406-674-5248	406-674-5237	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
OPHEIM, MT	406-724-3212	406-724-3370	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
SCOBAY, MT	406-783-5375 406-783-5372	406-783-5287	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	OCT 1 – MAY 14 MAY 15 – SEP 30
WHITETAIL, MT	406-779-3531	406-779-3358	9 AM – 6 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31

PORT LOCATION	PHONE	FAX	HOURS/DAY OF WEEK	
			8 AM – 9 PM	JUN 1 – SEP 15
RAYMOND, MT	406-895-2664 406-895-2620	406-895-2635 406-895-2632	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
HELENA, MT (Airport; also covers BUTTE)	406-495-2145	406-495-2144	9 AM – 5 PM AFTER HOURS BY APPOINTMENT	MON – FRI
GREAT FALLS, MT (Airport)	406-453-0861 406-788-9810	406-453-5688	8 AM – 4 PM AFTER HOURS BY APPOINTMENT	7 DAYS A WEEK
KALISPELL, MT (Airport)	406-257-7034	406-257-7038	9AM – 5 PM AFTER HOURS BY APPOINTMENT	MON – FRI

PORT LOCATION	PHONE	HOURS/DAY OF WEEK	
FORTUNA, ND	701-834-2493	9 AM – 10 PM	
WILLISTON, ND (Airport; Sloulin Field)	701-572-6552	On Call Basis	7 Days
AMBROSE, ND	701-982-3211	9 AM – 5 PM	
NOONAN, ND	701-925-5615	9 AM – 10 PM	
PORTAL, ND	701-926-4411 701-926-4241 701-926-4410	24 HOUR PORT	
NORTHGATE, ND	701-596-3805	9 AM – 10 PM	
SHERWOOD, ND	701-459-2250	9 AM – 10 PM	
ANTLER, ND	701-267-3321	9 AM – 10 PM	
MINOT, ND (Airport)	701-838-6704	9 AM – 5 PM	MON - SAT
WESTHOPE, ND	701-245-6194	8 AM – 9 PM	
CARBURY, ND	701-228-2540	9 AM – 10 PM	
DUNSEITH, ND	701-263-4460	24 HOUR PORT	
ST JOHN, ND	701-477-3140	8 AM – 9 PM	

HANSBORO, ND	701-266-5633	8 AM – 9 PM	
SARLES, ND	701-697-5177	9 AM – 10 PM	
HANNAH, ND	701-283-5271	9 AM – 5 PM	
MAIDA, ND	701-256-5087	9 AM – 10 PM	
WALHALLA, ND	701-549-3233	8 AM – 10 PM	
NECHE, ND	701-886-7744	8 AM – 10 PM	
PEMBINA, ND	701-825-6551	24 HOUR PORT	
PEMBINA SERVICE PORT	701-825-6201	Area Manager Not a Crossing	
GRAND FORKS, ND (Airport; Mark Andrews Int.)	701-772-3301	9 AM – 5 PM	MON - SAT
FARGO, ND (Airport; Hector Int.)	701-241-8124	8 AM – 5 PM	MON - FRI
NOYES, MN	218-823-6212	CLOSED	
LANCASTER, MN	218-762-4100	8 AM – 10 PM	
PINECREEK, MN	218-463-1952	9 AM – 5 PM	
ROSEAU, MN	218-463-2054 218-463-5020	8 AM – 12 PM	
WARROAD, MN	218-386-2796 218-386-3996	24 HOUR PORT	
BAUDETTE, MN	218-634-2803	24 HOUR PORT	
INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MN	218-283-2541	24 HOUR PORT	
CRANE LAKE, MN	218-993-2321	10 AM – 6 PM	
ELY, MN	218-365-3262		
GRAND PORTAGE, MN	218-475-2244	24 HOUR PORT	
GRAND MARAIS, MN	218-387-1148		

CANADIAN BORDER OFFICES

PORT LOCATION	PHONE	FAX	HOURS/DAY OF WEEK	
ADEN, AB/ WHITLASH, MT	403-344-2244	403-344-2244	9 AM – 5 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
ALDERGROVE, BC/ LYNDEN, WA	604-856-2791	604-856-6482	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
BEAVER CREEK, YT/ ALCAN, AK	867-862-7230	867-862-7613	24 HOUR PORT	7
BIG BEAVER, SK/ WHITETAIL, MT	306-267-2276	306-267-2087	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
BOUNDARY BAY, BC/POINT ROBERTS, WA	604-943-2722	604-943-6892	24 HOUR PORT	7
CARSON, BC/ DANVILLE, WA	250 442 -5551	250-442-2399	8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
CARWAY, AB/ PIEGAN, MT	403-653-3009	403-653-1026	7 AM – 11 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
CASCADE, BC/ LAURIER, WA	250-447-9418	250-447-6366	8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK
CHIEF MOUNTAIN, AB/CHIEF MOUNTAIN, MT (Glacier National Park; Summer Station Only)	403-653-3535	403-653-3535	9 AM – 6 PM 7 AM – 10 PM 9 AM – 6 PM	MAY 15 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – LABOR DAY DAY AFTER LABOR DAY TO SEP 30
CHOPAKA, BC/ NIGHTHAWK, WA	250-499-5176	250-499-2845	9 AM – 5 PM	7 DAYS A WEEK
CLIMAX, SK/TURNER, MT	306-293-2262	306-293-2141	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
CORONACH, SK/ SCOBEY, MT	306-267-2177	306-267-6080	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	OCT 1 – MAY 14 MAY 15 – SEP 30
COUTTS, AB/ SWEETGRASS, MT	403-344-3766	403-344-3094	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
DEL BONITA, AB/DEL BONITA, MT	403-758-3616	403-758-6225	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
FRASER, YT/	867-821-4111	867-821-4112	24 HOUR PORT	7
HUNTINGDON, BC/ SUMAS, WA	604-850-9346	604-852-7348	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
KINGSGATE, BC/ EASTPORT, ID	250-424-5391	250-424-5355	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
MIDWAY, BC/ FERRY, WA	250-449-2331	250-449-2354	9 AM – 5 PM	7 DAYS A WEEK
MONCHY, SK/ MORGAN, MT	306-298-2232	250-298-2046	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
NELWAY, BC/ METALINE FALLS,	250-357-9940	250-357-9688	8 AM – MIDNIGHT	7 DAYS A WEEK

WA				
OSOYOOS, BC/ OROVILLE, WA	250-495-7518	250-495-7699	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
PACIFIC HIGHWAY, BC/ BLAINE, WA	604-538-3611	604-538-0293	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
PATERSON, BC /FRONTIER, WA	250-362-7341	250-362-7747	24 HOUR PORT	7
ROOSVILLE, BC/ ROOSVILLE, MT	250-887-3413	250-887-3247	24 HOUR PORT	7 DAYS A WEEK
Rykerts, BC/ PORTHILL, ID	250-428-2575	250-428-5310	7 AM – 11 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31
SIDNEY, BC/ ANACORTES, WA (Ferry)	250-363-6644	250-363-6764		7
STEWART, BC/	250-636-2747	250-636-2748		7
VICTORIA, BC/ PORT ANGELES, WA (Ferry)	250-336-3339	250-363-3179		7
WANETA, BC/ BOUNDARY, WA	250-367-9656	250-367-6387	9 AM – 5 PM	7 DAYS A WEEK
WEST POPLAR RIVER, SK/ OPHEIM, ND	306-476-2320	306-476-2151	9 AM – 6 PM 8 AM – 9 PM	SEP 16 – MAY 31 JUN 1 – SEP 15
WILLOW CREEK, SK/ WILLOW CREEK, MT	306-299-4456	306-299-4458	9 AM – 5 PM	JAN 1 – DEC 31

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Notification Procedures when Mobilizing Yukon Territory Air Tankers into Alaska

- 1) Resource Information
 - a. Obtain aircraft tail numbers of all aircraft from Yukon Duty Officer
 - b. Obtain the names and date of birth of all flight crew-members
 - c. Obtain citizenship of all flight crew-members
- 2) Notify U.S. CBP Port Director Jeff Sherouse at 907-774-2252 of plan to move Yukon Air Tanker(s) and Birddog into Alaska. Provide the above info in a, b and c. Provide fire location. Notify CBP of estimated arrival times. Inform CBP whether the Tanker will do a single drop and immediately return to the Yukon (“splash and dash”) or if the ship will be reloading in Alaska. If the latter, include the name of the Alaska tanker base that the aircraft will be operating from. If known, provide estimated times of departure from Alaska.
- 3) Upon arrival at the Alaska tanker base, the flight crew leader will need to establish contact with CBP officials at 907-774-2252. State Coordinator (or designee) must ensure that this phone contact occurs.

Release back to YT

- 1) Notify U.S. CBP at 907-774-2252 when the aircraft is released back to Canada. CBP requests that Yukon Territory aircraft depart Alaska through Northway. This will enable the flight crew to “clear” Customs outbound. If aircraft are unable to land at Northway on their way out of Alaska, the aircraft will bypass CBP and proceed directly to their home base in the Yukon Territory. In this event, the State Coordinator at AICC will notify CBP by phone and provide written notice within 10 days of the aircrafts’ return to the Yukon Territory. The notice should include the date and time of departure and the number of days spent in Alaska.

U.S. Customs Notification Procedures when Mobilizing Yukon Territory Air Tankers

1) Resource Information

- a. Obtain aircraft tail numbers of all aircraft from Yukon Duty Officer**
- b. Obtain the names and date of birth of all flight crew members**
- c. Obtain citizenship of all flight crew members**

2) Notify U.S. Customs agent Doug Harmon (907-774-2252) of plan to move Yukon Air Tanker(s) and Birddog into Alaska. Provide the above info in a, b and c. Provide fire location. Notify Customs of estimated arrival times. Inform Customs whether the Tanker will do a single drop and immediately return to the Yukon (“splash and dash”) or if the ship will be reloading in Alaska. If the latter, include the Alaska tanker base that the aircraft will be operating from. If known, provide estimated times of departure from Alaska.

3) Upon arrival at the Alaska tanker base, the flight crew leader will need to establish contact with Customs officials at 907-774-2252. State Coordinator (or designee) must ensure that this phone contact occurs.

Release back to YT

1) Notify U.S. Customs (907-774-2252) when the aircraft is released back to Canada. Customs requests that Yukon Territory aircraft depart Alaska through Northway. This will enable the flight crew to “clear” Customs. However, damage resulting from the Denali Fault Earthquake in November of 2003 may limit access to Northway. If aircraft are unable to land at Northway on their way out of Alaska, the aircraft will bypass Customs and proceed directly to their home base in the Yukon Territory. In this event, the State Coordinator at AICC will notify customs by phone and provide written notice to Customs within 10 days of the aircrafts’ return to the Yukon Territory. The notice should include the date and time of departure and the number of days spent in Alaska.

Appendix E.

LOCAL GEOGRAPHIC AREA (BORDER) OPERATING PLANS

Local Geographic Area Operating Plans, sometimes known as border agreements, are incorporated by reference.